

12 January 2024

Dear families

Welcome to the New Year

I do hope that you have all had a good Christmas and New Year. It was lovely to welcome pupils back to the academy at the start of the week for a very positive first week back. We look forward to another productive half-term, where we remain focused on:

1. Be in school and be on time
2. Participate in lessons
3. Do your homework
4. Get off the bench!
5. Follow the instructions of staff

Year 11 mock results day

On Wednesday we shared with pupils the results of the year 11 mock exams that took place before Christmas. As pupils received their results, understandably there was a variety of reactions with some pupils being very pleased and others being less so, as they reflected upon their current grades. Most commonly pupils were pleased with their performance in some subjects, but disappointed with their performance in others. Crucially, this now allows pupils to consider what actions they need to take, as they work towards the final exams in the summer. With roughly sixteen weeks until the first exams take place, there is still time for pupils to make significant improvements and staff within the academy will be providing all of the support, guidance and any extra help that is required. If you have a child in year 11, please can you speak to them and encourage them to ask for any help that they may need.

Grab & Go

Last term, serving all pupils at brunch time has been a challenge, which on some occasions has led to brunch being extended to ensure that all children are fed. Obviously this is not a sustainable long-term solution, so this week we have introduced the option of children pre-ordering their food, meaning that they do not need to queue to get the food that they require and then have time to spend with their friends. If your child prefers to eat at this time of the day, please encourage them to use the 'grab & go' system before morning line-up.

Nottingham Ambition Taster Day

As part of the Nottingham Ambition programme a small group of Year 10 pupils were able to visit the University of Nottingham for a Taster Day. The visit focused on developing pupils' knowledge of Higher Education and enabled them to identify the key differences between learning at school and university. Pupils had the opportunity to learn about the different teaching styles at university, research degree courses and compare their typical school day to a day at university and were able to attend 2 different taster sessions. Thank you to Miss Cantrill for organising this informative and interesting visit.



**University of
Nottingham**
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Parent Forum – Monday 29 January. 4.45-5.45pm

Our next forum takes place on the evening of Monday 29 January and will focus on **Wellbeing**. If you have any questions or points that you would like to be discussed through this forum, please email mhackett@davidnieper.academy by Thursday 18 January and we will confirm the agenda in next week's weekly letter.

Careers Fair

David Nieper Academy Careers Fair will take place on Tuesday 30 January. We are calling for traders and self-employed people in Alfreton and surrounding areas to inform students of your craft, career journey and the skills and characteristics that are needed to be in your profession. The timings of the fair will be 1.45pm until 4.30pm, with set up from 1pm. The fair will be open to Years 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13. We are then extending the invite to all students and their parents/carers after school. We have a wide variety of organisations joining us, including colleges, universities, employers and alumni. If you would like to get involved or discuss this in more detail, please feel free to contact the academy at jshephard@davidnieper.academy or telephone at 01773 832331.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 9 to Tuesday 16 January	BTEC External exams
Monday 29 January	Parent Forum, Pupil Wellbeing
Tuesday 30 January	Careers Fair
Wednesday 31 January	Early finish, all pupils depart at 2pm.
Monday 19 to Friday 23 February	Half-term holidays

If we can help or support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please email info@davidnieper.academy and a member of staff will be in touch.

Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr R White
Head of School